

P.T.O.

The Doctor B. M. J.

My dear Mr. J.

As requested I forward report of my annual report to the Wellingboro' Rural District Council which is I think pretty accurate

THE NEWS, FRIDAY, Dec

The Wellingborough News.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH, 1895.

DECLARATION OF WAR IN THE

SHOE TRADE

To all appearances a lock-out in the shoe

trade is inevitable, and unless something else

happens between now and the 18th of March

we shall have all the factories of the members

of the Federation closed, and many thousands

of boot operatives thrown out of employment.

In the earlier part of the week, recognising the

gravity of the situation, and how much there

is at stake, several members of Parliament

have been using their good offices to get the

whole of the matters in dispute referred to

arbitration. Mr. Channing was the first to

move in this direction, and the very sensible

letter that he sent to Mr. Inskip and Mr. Ward

will be found on another page. The answers

the hon. member received from those gentlemen

are also published, and therein we see the

points of difference. Mr. Inskip expresses the

willingness of the executive of the Men's Union

to refer the whole matter to arbitration, the

name of Sir Henry James, who has formerly

acted as arbitrator, being approved by them

Mr. Ward, on the other hand, points out that the manufacturers are not the attacking party, and whilst recognising how serious a matter a strike would be to the trade of the country, expresses his opinion that no good could come from a conference on the subject, and that if they submitted to the claims of the Union it would mean ruin to the trade. Their position as manufacturers, he says, has become unbearable, and he adds the significant sentence that even a fight, terrible as it may be, might prove a lesser evil all round than a capitulation which would end in disaster to the trade. Mr. Hazell and Mr. Broadhurst, the two Leicester M.P.'s, and Mr. Labouchere, Northampton's senior member, have all written letters on the subject, and the last-named obtained from

THIS BEING THE SPECIAL FILE COPY FOR
LIBRARY B. M. A., IT IS PARTICULARLY
REQUESTED THAT IT MAY BE RETURNED
AT AS EARLY A DATE AS POSSIBLE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1894

JMN.

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

W.

The monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, when there were present:—Rev. T. Richards (chairman), Mr. George Parsons (vice-chairman), Rev. W. D. Sargeant, and Messrs. C. Parsons, J. Parsons, H. Hutchinson, W. H. Callis, H. Tassell, George Bayes, J. C. Eady, W. Bradshaw, Charles Dunkley, J. Keech, V. L. Smith, W. S. Gibbard, C. F. Groome, W. O. Sanders, and Willan Jackson (clerk).

THE WORK OF THE HIGHWAY BOARD.

After the 25th inst. the Council will take over the powers and duties of the Highway Board, and arrangements were therefore made for carrying on this work. Mr. J. Marriott, surveyor to the Highway Board, was in attendance, and presented his estimates for the repair of the main and district roads for the ensuing year, showing that a total of £2,215 was required against £2,990 last year, and that owing to extraordinary traffic Irthlingborough and Wollaston were slightly higher this year.—The Clerk was instructed to prepare a statement of the contributions which will be required, and present it at the next meeting.

THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT.

The annual report of the medical officer, Dr. F. H. Morris, was read as under:—

It again becomes my duty to lay before you the annual report of the sanitary condition of the Wellingborough Rural District, which consists of three sub-divisions, with an estimated population of 20,100 of which Earls Barton contains 8,098, Finedon 6,049, and Higham Ferrers 5,953. The registered births have been 630, including 13 illegitimate, the births in the Earls Barton district have been 214, in the Finedon district 194, and in the Higham Ferrers district 222, this gives a birth-rate of 31.34 per 1,000 for the whole district, or 26.42 per 1,000 for Earls Barton, 32.06 for Finedon, and 37.29 for Higham Ferrers. The registered deaths have been 302 for the whole district and 117 for Earls Barton, 91 for Finedon and 94 for Higham Ferrers, thus giving a death-rate of 15.02 per 1,000 for the whole district, 14.44 for Earls Barton, 15.04 for Finedon, and 15.79 for Higham Ferrers, being an improvement upon last year, which was 16.018 for the whole district, Earls Barton being 15.000 per 1,000 while Finedon was 20.005 per 1,000.

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been 123'80 per 1,000 births for
Earls Barton has been 154'2, Finedon 114'2,
Higham Ferrers 108'1. This shows that out of
100 children born 12'380 have died before attaining
the age of one year.—Zymotic diseases: 235 cases of
infectious diseases have been reported during the
past year, 103 in the Earls Barton district, 18 under
5 years of age, 85 over 5 years, 95 in the Finedon
district, 20 under 5 years, 75 over, and 37 in the
Higham Ferrers district, 11 under 5 years and 26
over.—Small pox: No case has occurred in the district
during the past year, but vaccination has become
almost a thing of the past as no steps have been
taken to enforce the Act.—Scarlet fever: 170 cases of
scarlet fever have been reported, 75 in the Earls
Barton district, 17 under 5 years of age 58 over, 72
in the Finedon district, 20 under 5 years of age 52
over, and 23 in the Higham Ferrers district 10 under
5 years of age 13 over. There have been 3 deaths, 2
in the Finedon district, 1 under 5 years, 1 over, and
1 death in the Higham Ferrers district under 5
years.—Diphtheria: 9 cases have been reported, all
over 5 years of age, with one death of the 9 cases; 6
have occurred in the same house the others were
sporadic, one being in a patient suffering from scarlet
fever.—Typhoid fever: 28 cases have been reported,
8 in each district, with 4 deaths, 2 at Wollaston in
the Earls Barton district, and 2 at Finedon, all over
5 years of age.—Erysipelas: 32 cases have been re-
ported, 20 in the Earls Barton district, 1 under 5
years 19 over, 6 in the Finedon district with one
death, and 6 in the Higham Ferrers district, all over
5 years; all these cases have been sporadic, in no
instance has any other in the same house been at-
tacked.—Measles not being included in the Notifica-
tion Act have not been reported; there have, however,
been 10 deaths from this cause, 4 in the Earls Barton
district, and 6 in the Higham Ferrers district all under
5 years old.—Whooping cough is accountable for 17
deaths, 6 in the Earls Barton, 3 in the Finedon, and
8 in the Higham Ferrers district, 16 being under 5
years and one over.—Diarrhoea has been fatal in 4
cases in the Earls Barton district, 2 being under 5
years and 2 over.—The deaths from the Zymotic
diseases have been remarkably low. This must be
attributed to the very efficient system of disinfection,
every case has been visited and instructions given
and disinfectants applied. There being no Isolation
Hospital in the district it has been impossible to
prevent the spread of these diseases.—Respiratory
diseases: Phthisis has caused 24 deaths, 12 in the
Earls Barton district, 3 in the Finedon and 9 in the
Higham Ferrers districts.—Bronchitis and pneu-
monia have been fatal in 69 cases, 28 in the
Earls Barton district, 20 in the Finedon, and 21 in the
Higham Ferrers district; of these 41 have been under
5 years of age, 28 over. Heart disease is accountable
for 30 deaths, one under 5 years, 29 over. There has
been one death from rheumatic fever. Influenza
has been fatal in 6 cases, 5 of which were over 60
years of age, 1 being 53. Injuries have caused 4
deaths. Of the so-called preventable diseases, mea-
sles and whooping cough, although not included
in the Act, have caused more than double the number
of deaths than all the others combined. Why those
should have been excluded is best known to the
framers of the Act. I have again to call your
attention to the inefficient water supply throughout
the district, which consists of shallow wells which are
constantly liable to pollution. Earls Barton is the
only village in the district which has waterworks.
There is also no proper drainage system in the dis-
trict, the whole drainage being discharged into the
several streams and finally into the river. I wish to
recommend the use of peat-moss for the pail system,
its special claims for consideration are, first, its
power of absorbing liquids from 9 to 12 times its own
weight; second, its power of fixing and retaining
ammonia; third, its deodorizing powers; lastly, its
value as a manure and its suitability for all soils,
one ton of peat manure being equal to double the
quantity of farm-yard manure. It is obtainable at a
moderate cost, and having had about 12 years personal
experience of its value I can recommend it with the
greatest confidence. I would also recommend the
pails being emptied more frequently, twice a week,
instead of once, as at present. Many samples of
water have been analysed, but, as mentioned in my
monthly reports, chemical analysis is no certain test
of absolute purity, yet, where found to contain an
abnormal amount of organic matter, it becomes a
duty to condemn it for domestic purposes. Several
cases of overcrowding have been remedied, as also
several houses found to be too filthy for human
occupation. The several factories and workshops
throughout the district have been inspected, and
those in an overcrowded state, or not having proper
means of ventilation or accommodation for the
different sexes and those requiring white-washing or
cleansing, have been rectified. Some pieces of unsound
meat have been seized and the parties prosecuted and
fined. I beg to express my gratitude to your Inspec-
tor for the estimable manner in which he has carried
out his onerous duties, also for the valuable
assistance I have derived from him in the exercise
of our sanitary work."

The monthly report of Dr. Morris was as
under:

I have to call your attention to a house at Great
Harrowden in the occupation of Wm. Hart,
with his three children, girls aged 9, 8, and 7,
sleeping in one bed which is in a most filthy
state. At the time of my visit he had engaged a
woman to do the housework, but I did not see it

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clean the house so that it had been
one could scarcely imagine that it had been
by human beings. Irrespective of dirt th
in such a dilapidated state that it is totally
human or any habitation and must therefore
demned. There have been 43 cases of infectious
diseases reported during the past month, viz., 41 of
scarlet fever, 35 at Earls Barton, 5 at Ecton, and 1
at Sywell. The disease was imported at Ecton and
also at Sywell from Earls Barton, one case of
erysipelas at Earls Barton, and one case of typhoid
fever at Great Doddington.

Mr. George Bayes, sanitary officer, presented
his annual report for the year ending December
31st, 1894, which was as under:

Infectious diseases: 235 cases have been visited,
houses cleansed and disinfected, bedding and clothing
destroyed in the small-pox cases at Irthlingboro' and
in one of the typhoid cases at Wollaston. Dwelling-
houses: 65 dwellings have been repaired, 9 dilapidated
ones abolished, and replaced by new ones. 16 over-
crowding cases and 12 filthy dwellings dealt with.
Accumulations: 73 foul accumulations and 49
animals removed, 9 ashpits, 12 pigstyes, and 18
privys abolished, 36 cesspits filled in and closets
made on the pail system, 28 new closets erected, 14
cleaned and repaired. Several ashpits abolished and
receptacles provided. Sewers: Lengths of sewers
have been laid at Earls Barton, Finedon, Irchester,
and Wollaston. Private drains: 20 old drains were
taken up and re-laid with 4-inch or 6-inch glaze pipes
by owners, 45 blocked and defective drains repaired,
37 trapped, and 8 sink pipes disconnected. Bake-
houses, slaughterhouses, dairies, and workshops
regularly inspected, 9 cases of overcrowding in work-
shops dealt with, 73 notices for abatement were
served, 5 cases were brought to the Police Court,
conviction in each case.

Mr. Sanders said with regard to the water
supply mentioned in the report, he thought that
Council should make every endeavour to provide
a supply of water in the larger villages. It was,
if anything, in his opinion, a more important
question than the disposal of sewerage. He had
no faith in any shallow well system, but he thought
it was their duty to see about providing better
water supplies for all places that were increasing
in population.—Rev. T. Richards said he thought
the position they had taken up was this: that if
any of those large parishes desired a water supply
they would put no scotch in the wheel to prevent
it.—Mr. G. Parsons said their sanitary inspector
had gone through their parish from end to end,
every well not in a satisfactory state having been
remedied, and he supposed it was the same with
other places. He believed Irthlingborough was
in a very satisfactory state.—Rev. T. Richards
thought it was a matter they should all bear in
mind.—The annual report was considered to be
of a satisfactory character.—In the case of the
house occupied by Hart at Great Harrowden,
arising out of the monthly report, an order was
made for the nuisance to be abated, and the
house was condemned as unfit for habitation.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Clerk read a communication from the
Earls Barton Parish Council, containing the
following resolution which had been passed at the
last meeting with reference to the sewage farm:
"That the additional seven acres required to
make up 20 acres be taken out of Lucas' barn field
on the north side of the 13 acre field already
adopted."—Mr. Dunkley proposed "That the
Council approve the recommendation of the
Parish Council, and as advised by the Local
Government Board, accept the offer of Mr. J. W.
Sharman's trustees to sell them five acres more
land, making 20 acres in all, at £50 per acre, for
the purpose of the sewage farm, and that the